



First Congregational Church

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**First Sunday in Lent**

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06 March 2022



*Enter with a spirit of preparation as we gather ourselves for worship*

**Prelude:** "Prelude and Fugue" Clara Schumann

## **Welcome and Announcements**

**Introit:** "Lift High the Cross"

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim  
till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

## **Call to Worship**

\* **Hymn:** "Jesus Tempted in the Desert" **P. 6**

\* **Responsive Reading:** Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

**ONE:** You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the LORD,

**ALL: "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.**

**ONE:** Because you have made the LORD your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place,

**ALL: no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.**

**ONE:** For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

**ALL: On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.**

**ONE:** You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion & the serpent you will trample under foot.

**ALL: Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.**

ONE: When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them.

**ALL: With long life I will satisfy them, & show them my salvation.**

**First Reading:** Deuteronomy 26:1-11

<sup>1</sup>When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, <sup>2</sup>you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup>You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." <sup>4</sup>When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, <sup>5</sup>you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. <sup>6</sup>When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, <sup>7</sup>we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. <sup>8</sup>The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; <sup>9</sup>and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup>So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. <sup>11</sup>Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

**Musical Offering:** "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" arr. Jason Krug  
*Northern Lights Ringers*

## Children's Moment

### Invitation to Giving

Offertory: "Andante" Elizabeth Stirling

#### \*Doxology: (tune) No. 47

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen

#### \*Dedication of Gifts:

ALL: O Generous One, we give thanks to you for your steadfast love endures forever. May these gifts be used to feed the hunger and satisfy the thirst of your creating Spirit. Amen.

\*Hymn: "When We Are Tested" P. 7

### Prayers of the People

#### Pastoral Prayer

#### The Lord's Prayer

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

#### Prayer Response

#### Second Reading: Luke 4:1-13

<sup>1</sup> Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over,

he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is written, '*One does not live by bread alone.*'"

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup>And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup>If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is written, '*Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.*'"

<sup>9</sup>Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup>for it is written '*He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,*' <sup>11</sup>and '*On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.*'"

<sup>12</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is said, '*Do not put the Lord your God to the test.*'" <sup>13</sup>When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**Sermon:**

Ollie Bergh

\* **Hymn:** "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

**No. 65, P. 8**

\* **Benediction**

\* **Benediction Response:** "May the Grace of Christ Our Savior"



May the grace of Christ our Sav - ior And the Fa - ther's bound - less love,



With the Ho - ly Spir - it's fa - vor, Rest up - on us from a - bove.

**Postlude:**

"Maestoso"

Elizabeth Stirling

# Jesus Tempted in the Desert

1 Jesus, tempted in the desert,  
lonely, hungry, filled with dread:  
'Use your power,' the tempter tells him;  
'turn these barren rocks to bread!'  
'Not alone by bread,' he answers,  
'can the human heart be filled.  
Only by the Word that calls us  
is our deepest hunger stilled!'

2 Jesus, tempted at the temple,  
high above its ancient wall:  
'Throw yourself from lofty turret;  
angels wait to break your fall!'  
Jesus shuns such empty marvels,  
feats that fickle crowds request:  
'God, whose grace protects, preserves us,  
we must never vainly test.'

3 Jesus, tempted on the mountain  
by the lure of vast domain:  
'Fall before me! Be my servant!  
Glory, fame, you're sure to gain!'  
Jesus sees the dazzling vision,  
turns his eyes another way:  
'God alone deserves our homage!  
God alone will I obey.'

4 When we face temptation's power,  
lonely, struggling, filled with dread,  
Christ, who knew the tempter's hour,  
come and be our living bread.  
By your grace, protect, preserve us  
lest we fall, your trust betray.  
Yours, above all other voices,  
be the Word we hear, obey.



**Words:** Herman  
G. Stuempfle, Jr.

**Music:** Thomas  
John Williams,  
*adapt. from an  
anthem*

# When We Are Tested



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,  
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,  
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,  
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,  
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,  
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,  
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,  
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,  
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,  
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.  
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.  
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.  
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

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## A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1. A might-y for-tress is our God, a bul-wark nev-er fail-ing,
2. Did we in our own strength con-fide, our striv-ing would be los-ing,
3. And though this world with dev-ils filled, should threat-en to un-do us,
4. God's word a-bove all earth-ly powers, no thanks to them, a-bid-eth.



our pres-ent help a-mid the flood of mor-tal ills pre-vail-ing.  
 but there is one who takes our side, the one of God's own choos-ing.  
 we will not fear for God has willed the truth to tri-umph through us.  
 The Spir-it and the gifts are ours, through Christ, who with us sid-eth.



For still our an-cient foe doth seek to work us woe, with craft and  
 You ask who that may be? Christ Je-sus, it is he with might-y  
 The powers of dark-ness grim, we trem-ble not for them; their rage we  
 Let goods and kin-dred go, this mor-tal life al-so. The bod-y



pow-er great, and armed with cru-el hate, on earth with-out an e-qual.  
 pow'r to save, vic-to-rious o'er the grave, Christ will pre-vail tri-um-phant!  
 can en-dure, for lo, their doom is sure: One lit-tle word shall fell them.  
 they may kill, God's truth a-bid-eth still, God's reign en-dures for-ev-er.



WORDS: Martin Luther, c. 1529; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1852;

adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981, 1990

MUSIC: Martin Luther, c. 1529; harm. from *The New Hymnal for American Youth*, 1930

EIN' FESTE BURG

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# News from the Pews

- ☆ **Outreach Ministry**—Today after worship
- ☆ **Stewardship Ministry**—Tuesday, March 8th at 5pm
- ☆ **Taizé Service**—Tuesday March 8th at 5:45pm
- ☆ **Handbell Rehearsal**—Wednesdays at 5:15pm
- ☆ **Choir Rehearsal**—Wednesdays at 6:30pm
- ☆ **Fellowship Meeting**—Thursday, March 8th at 4pm

**Guest Preacher Ollie Bergh**—Ollie is a seminarian and an associate chaplain at Providence Hospital. He's approved for ordination in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America following his graduation in May from Wartburg Theological Seminary. Ollie grew up in Lake Oswego, Oregon and studied theatre at Western Oregon University before converting to Christianity and eventually following the call to seminary. In his spare time, he can be found experimenting in his kitchen, cooking for his wife Erika (who pastors Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church) and one year old daughter Ottilie.



**Taizé Services**—Weekly Taizé services will begin on March 8th and continue throughout Lent. Taizé services are a time of quiet contemplation with meditative music, short readings, and times of prayer. Everyone is invited to join for these relaxed and reflective services, every Tuesday during Lent at 5:45pm.



**Soup Group**— Soup group is starting up again this Thursday, March 10th at 10am. The group will be working on our church history documents to send to the national archives. Contact Claudia Kniefel for additional information.



# First Congregational Church of Anchorage

2610 East Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage, Alaska 99508  
907.272.8363—www.fccak.org

## Guest Minister

**Ollie Bergh**  
907.272.8363

## Music Ministry

**Caroline Valentine**  
Organist and  
Director, Northern Lights Ringers  
**Lori Parker Wasko**  
Director, Chancel Choir

**Krystal Poindexter**  
Administrative Assistant  
907.272.8363—office@fccak.org

**Olive Nyiramucyo**  
Church Custodian

**Julie McClure**  
Wedding Coordinator

## Sunday Volunteers

Deacon Serving: Sandy Skaggs  
Usher Team: Avery Binek & Paul Wasko  
Greeter: Sandy Skaggs  
Liturgist: Sue Hanas  
Audio/Video Tech: Jim Walker  
Fellowship Host:

In recognition of **Women Composers Sunday**, the service music this week was written by women composers.

This week's Communion Table flowers are given by Louise Smith.

Flowers provided by Evalyn's Floral

## Connect—Get Involved—Share a Prayer Request


Fill out one of the connect cards located in the back of the pew in front of you and drop it in the offering plate.

Scan the QR Code to receive news and updates from FCC Anchorage in your inbox.



## Hearing-Assist System

Connect directly to a smart device with Bluetooth hearing aids or traditional headphones.

1. Download the AudioFetch app:  audiofetch
2. Connect to Wi-Fi signal: FCCAK HEARING ASSIST
3. Make sure hearing aid is Bluetooth connected.
4. Open AudioFetch app and enjoy the sound!

## Member—

National Association  
Of Congregational  
Christian Churches



## Member— #1700

Open & Affirming Congregation (ONA)

## Online Giving

In addition to cash or checks, First Congregational Church accepts donations and pledge payments securely online with a credit card.

Scan the QR code or go to [www.fccak.org/give](http://www.fccak.org/give)



Thank you for your financial participation in the work of First Congregational Church!

# First Congregational Church of Anchorage

## March 2022

### Outreach : Catholic Social Services Wishlist

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 <b>First Sunday in Lent</b> Guest Preacher: Ollie Bergh 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship 11:45am Outreach Mtg	7 6pm Crow Creek (BR, S)	8 10am Lectio Divina (Zoom) 5pm Stewardship Mtg 5:45pm Taize Services	9 5:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Choir	10 10am Soup Group 4pm Fellowship Mtg	11	12 9am Organist
13 <b>Second Sunday in Lent</b> Guest Preacher: Ollie Bergh 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship	14 6pm Crow Creek (BR, S)	15 10am Lectio Divina (Zoom) 5:45pm Taize Services	16 5:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Choir	17 <b>St. Patrick's Day</b> 10am Soup Group 7pm Worship Mtg	18	19 9am Organist
20 <b>Third Sunday in Lent</b> <b>Communion</b> Guest Preacher: Ollie Bergh 10:30am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Fellowship 11:45am Council Mtg 2pm Pastoral Search Committee Mtg.	21 6pm Crow Creek (BR, S)	22 10am Lectio Divina (Zoom) 5:45pm Taize Services	23 5:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Choir	24 10am Soup Group	25	26 9am Organist
27 <b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b> Guest Preacher: Ollie Bergh 10:30am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Fellowship	28 6pm Crow Creek (BR, S)	29 10am Lectio Divina (Zoom) 5:45pm Taize Services	30 5:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Choir	31 10am Soup Group	Apr 1	2 9am Organist